

it is necessary to cite an example, and I take the first one at hand, remarking at the same time that these cases are very numerous, and that it is unjust to single out a particular person for condemnation.

In a paper published in Vol. 30 of the CANADIAN ENTOMOLOGIST, some 33 new genera of Phytophaga are proposed in consequence of the rearrangement of this group. In all cases, save one, the author is careful to state the species that served as types for the new genera, but in every case the old genus is represented by its initial merely, so that neither the direct statements of the author nor the context give the slightest clue to the name. Let us take a specific illustration. On pp. 286-287 is given a table of the genera of Hemichroinæ, of which three are recognized: "*Hemichroa*, CURTIS; *Opisthoneura*, ASHM., n. g. (type *O. crevecoeuri*, ASHM.); *Marlattia*, ASHM., n. g. (type *H. laricis*, MARL.)." What, pray, is *O. crevecoeuri*? It can not be *Opisthoneura*, for that is a new genus, and the species *crevecoeuri* is not new. What does *H. laricis* mean? It is true that in this case the bibliographer can, by comparing species by species with DALLE TORRE'S catalogue, ascertain with great probability what these initials mean; but this involves many hours of study, and the Hymenoptera form the only group for which this would be at all practicable. Indeed, the recorder of the Zoological Record did not take such pains, so that in his report the initials have been allowed to stand quite out of connection with the original grouping, so that the confusion is still further increased.

But why should a scientific writer impose such burdens upon his readers? I refuse to believe that motives of economy force editors to print H. for *Hemichroa*, or that a man of science begrudges the few extra strokes of the pen necessary to make his published work intelligible. No, it is a mere matter of thoughtless habit, which needs only to be pointed out to be corrected.

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A NEW GENUS OF APHELININÆ FROM CHILE.

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Since the publication of the writer's "Revision of the Aphelininæ of North America" (Bulletin 1, Technical Series, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Division of Entomology, 1895), the discovery of new forms,

and especially of new genera, has been of very infrequent occurrence. Species have been received from all parts of the world, owing to the extraordinary and world-wide development of interest in scale insects, which are the principal hosts of the Aphelininæ, yet nearly all of the forms thus received have been species already described, which have been carried with their hosts upon live plants to many different regions. It is, therefore, interesting to discover a new genus, even from a country like Chile, whose parasitic Hymenoptera are so little known. A most interesting feature of the discovery is that the new genus was reared from *Aspidiotus hederæ* (*nerii*) together with three of the cosmopolitan forms, namely, *Aspidiotiphagus citrinus* (Craw); *Coccophagus immaculatus*, How., and *Prospalta aurantii*, How. The writer is indebted to Mr. Edwyn C. Reed, of Rancagua, Chile, for this sending, as well as for many other favours.

APHYTIS—New Genus.

Female.—Resembles Aphelinus in the oblique hairless line extending from the stigmal vein transversely to base of wing. It differs principally from Aphelinus in the antennæ, which are only 5-jointed, the first ring-joint apparently being absent. The pedicel is nearly cylindrical; the first funicle joint cubical; the second funicle joint long = oval, wider than the first and more than twice as long; club long, elliptical, longer than pedicel and funicle together. The mesonotal sclerites resemble those of Aphelinus, but the ovipositor is exerted to about one-third the length of the abdomen, as with *Centrodora*; hind thighs somewhat swollen; stigmal vein is short and knobbed and the post-marginal vein is absent; the mandibles are tridentate; the ocelli large and placed in the form of an oblique angled triangle.

Aphytis Chilensis, n. sp.

Female.—Length to tip of ovipositor 0.94 mm.; expanse 1.8 mm.; greatest width of fore wing 0.18 mm. General colour pale yellow, with slight dusky tinge on the dorsum of the thorax; the lateral margins of the abdominal segments with dusky transverse stripes; antennæ fuscous; wings with a faint dusky cloud below stigmal vein.

Described from 1 female, reared by Edwyn C. Reed, from *Aspidiotus hederæ*, on ivy (presumably *Hedera helix*), Rancagua, Chile.

U. S. N. M., type No. 4968.